

Greetings Fellow Soapers!

I hope you all had fun at Saturday's Soap Making Class - I had a blast hanging out and meeting you all! Here is a brief synopsis of what we covered on Saturday:

1. Mix the measured 8.75 oz of lye (NaOH) into the 15oz (up to 22oz, but error on the lower side) of distilled water. Make sure it's 100% pure Sodium Hydroxide (I get mine on Amazon, but you can find it at local hardware stores). Please remember that mixing NaOH with water will put off caustic steam and become VERY hot, so don't forget your safety equipment!
2. Heat the 60 oz of oil in the crock pot on high until melted (we used 60% olive oil or 36 oz and 40% coconut oil or 24 oz). Keep in mind, this is one recipe of thousands. I encourage you to get a book, watch a few YouTube videos and check out some soap forums to supplement my class. See the listed websites below. Your lye mixture will change based on the oils and amounts used, so always run everything through a soap calculator.
3. Add the lye solution to your heated oils (make sure your crock pot is on low now) and begin mixing, either by hand or with a stick blender.
4. Once you have achieved trace (pudding consistency!) cover and let cook until gelled and your tongue stops zapping. Make sure to stir it down periodically as it crawls up the sides.
5. Turn off your crock pot and let cool for 5-10 minutes. Add your fragrance oils (no alcohol bases) and colorants as desired.
6. Glop and squish into your desired molds and let sit overnight before cutting!
7. Give your completed soap about a week or two of sitting out before using, just to let it harden so it will last longer. (One thing to note is that I usually measure batches in 3 pounds - 48oz of oil, simply because that is what fits in my mold. You can do any size you want based on your individual molds and cooking vessels!)

**I like the books "Everything Soap Making" Alicia Grosso and "Scientific Soapmaking" - Kevin Dunn.

**Some of the websites I like are:

www.thesage.com/calcs

www.soapmakingforum.com

**The best place to buy your oils is Costco or Sam's club.

**I would really like to stay in touch with each of you. Please add me on Facebook (Mary Nicole Piper) and like my soap page to find out about any potential classes coming up:

(<https://www.facebook.com/bushbabysap>) or visit my website at: www.bushbabysap.com .

I would love to hear about your future projects so please keep me updated! And always remember to stay safe!

Note:

To make your soap "cold process", after your oils are melted, you would turn the heat off and cool for 15 minutes or so before proceeding to step 3. At step 4, you would stop at "trace" and add your fragrances and colorants and then pour directly into your lined mold. Cover the mold with an old bath towel and let sit for about 24 hours before uncovering and unmolding. Then you can cut your bars to your desired sizes and let sit out on a drying rack for about a week to evaporate excess water and harden up before using.

Happy Soaping!

Mary